The Canterbury Potter

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CANTERBURY POTTERS ASSOCIATION | **ISSUE 1 2025**

from the president (not that one!)

Welcome all to the first newsletter of 2025. This first quarter seems to have flashed past in a flurry of activity, and despite international turmoil, we have been very productive at the club rooms.

The working bee was a great success and we thank everyone who came along and helped out. Even if you only have an hour, it all makes a difference. We will schedule another clean up later in the year and hope to see loads more people getting stuck in.

The Lilly Maetzig and Tom Somerville workshops were a great success and the events committee continues to work towards bringing new and interesting events for the membership. We have the 4 techniques weekend coming up in April - this books out fast so get in quickly if you're keen. If you would like a particular type of workshop to be included in the events calendar, please let us know. We'll do our best to make it happen.

Otago Polytech have taken up residence on Friday afternoons and we welcome them to our clubrooms. We hope our friendly members and wonderful facilities aid all the students in their endeavours.

As always, we rely on our volunteers to keep the club running smoothly, and this quarter I am singling out the kiln group. This dedicated bunch under the very able guidance of Mary Lou Foate not only keep work flowing through the kilns, but work tirelessly to resolve issues, ensure the kilns are firing correctly and have also implemented the new system to keep the shelves less cluttered. Thank you, all of you for your time and dedication. You are very much appreciated!

Happy potting everyone!
Penny de Jong

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Nau mai, haere mai

Gabrielle Amodeo • Catarina Arnold • Jules Baird • Simone Blackie • Courtenay Bryson • Sarah Mae Burgess • Gina Marie Coatsworth • Patrick Fitzgerald • Jenni Hague • Michael Hann • Rebecca Hubbard • Alice Kao • Sonja Koing • Nicky Loe • Becky Mitchell • Michelle Morgan • Sebastian Palalagi • Nicole Potter • Hadie Scott • Caitlin Sheen • Tjun Theng • Mark Thygesen • Alison Walls • Cina West • Olivia Winks • Jessika Wise • Joshua Wright • Georgiana Willetts

CPA COMMITTEE 2024–2025

Penny de Jong **President**
Joseph Harper **Secretary**
Wendy Hsiung **Treasurer**
Annemarie Prenderville **Membership**

Committee
Angela Desmarais • Ann Goldfarb
Kay Joyce • Kerrie McGirr
Jan Robertson • Alison Wilding

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WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

LILLY MAETZIG RETURNS HOME FOR A HEARTFELT WORKSHOP

We were thrilled to welcome the renowned ceramicist Lilly Maetzig back to New Zealand for an inspiring talk and hands-on workshop at the CPA. Lilly, who has made a name for herself in the ceramics world, captivated the audience with her deep passion for clay and teaching.

In her talk, Lilly took us through a series of slides, providing a fascinating history of her artistic journey. From her move to the UK to her current status Lilly shared personal stories of how she set herself up as a ceramicist and what sparked her enduring love for teaching. Lilly's journey is a testament to the dedication and patience it takes to truly master the art of ceramics, and her insights into the creative process were a highlight of the day for me!

The workshop that followed was a hands-on experience that allowed attendees to learn directly from Lilly's expertise. Participants were guided through the crafting of two beautiful pieces: a lemon squeezer and a butter bell. Lilly's approach to teaching was not only informative but incredibly generous. She made sure every participant felt supported and confident as they worked with clay, offering tips and advice with kindness and encouragement.

The event was a true success, with all of the pieces created during the workshop quickly being finished off at home or at CPA. It's a testament to Lilly's influence, both as a ceramicist and as a teacher. Her kindness and expertise shone through, leaving everyone who attended with a renewed sense of enthusiasm for adding to their homewares repertoire.

We'd like to extend our deepest thanks to Lilly for sharing her time and talent with us. Her visit has left a lasting impact on all who were fortunate enough to attend, and we look forward to welcoming her back to CPA in the future.

Nikki Wallace-Bell

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

FANTASTIC BOTANICS

Tom Somerville workshop

The hydrangea rosette workshop in February was an enjoyable tour through a variety of hand building techniques. Tom's botanically themed pieces reflect what he observes in his Helensville garden. The time he spends developing methods of construction means that firing and glazing is simple. These pieces are well thought out and included some easy to transfer skills using the 'number one tool'!

The day was spent making and using plaster moulds, discussing the use of stains to make coloured clay, forming individual petals and then constructing the rosette using the clay leaves fresh from the new moulds made in the morning. Finally a demonstration of glazing – made easy with the two-pieced design.

Tom left enough time to demonstrate how he made frangipani and hibiscus flowers using a simple homemade tool.

Tom's good natured teaching style and generosity with plentiful tips and tricks were enjoyed by all who attended – expect to see some floral decorations hitting the firing shelves soon.

Alison Wilding

Pots amongst the flames

WHAT'S COMING UP

FOUR TECHNIQUES ONE WEEKEND

SAT 12 + SUN 13 APRIL

Penny de Jong, Jane McCulla, Lorraine Bonisch and Andrew Carran will be sharing their skills and knowledge with a taste of Nerikomi, decorating greenware, building big and using local clays. See poster next page for further details and how to book.

KINTSUGI WITH EMA FROST

FRI 16 MAY | 10.30AM-12.30PM

Learn the magical art of Kintsugi with artist Ema Frost in this new Workshop. You can bring along a piece of your own pottery to restore in this beautiful style.

CERAMICS IN A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

FRI 6 JUNE | EVE

CPA member Louise Webster will be giving a talk on her research trip to Bali where she explored some unique, sustainability practices in ceramics. See Louise's preview article for more.

MATARIKI RAKU

FRI 20 JUNE | EVE

Come celebrate Matariki alongside the CPA community with a special raku firing. A great opportunity to fire your own work or just enjoy this unique spectacle.

EVENT PREVIEW

Exploring circular ceramics at Kevala

Louise Webster gives a teaser of her upcoming talk at CPA

Right now, I'm deep in the world of large-scale ceramics at Kevala in Bali, and wow — what an eye-opener! This isn't your typical pottery studio; it's a full-scale ceramic factory where handcrafted artistry meets serious production power. Seeing their process in action — from hand-thrown forms to slip casting and precision glazing — has been nothing short of inspiring.

But what really blows my mind is their commitment to sustainability. Kevala is turning industrial waste into ceramics! Think coloured glass, stone and glass slurry, even oyster and eggshells from the hospitality industry — all repurposed into stunning, functional pieces. It's an incredible example of how the circular economy can work in ceramics.

I'll be sharing more about this experience, the challenges, and the potential for using recycled materials at my talk for the Canterbury Potters Association on 6 June. Can't wait to chat about how these ideas could shape sustainable ceramics in New Zealand!

Follow my journey on Instagram @louisewebsterceramics and stay tuned for more!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's that time of year when memberships are renewed. Invoices for the 2025-26 year will be sent out this month. You will have until 30 June to pay your membership fee. Reminder that if you wish to resign your membership, you can let us know by emailing canterburypotters@gmail.com

FIRING SHEETS

Thanks to everyone who has been following the new coloured firing sheet process. This little change makes things a lot simpler for our treasurer and the CPA committee. Please close off, invoice and pay your current firing sheet and move on to the next colour. For the next quarter, we will be moving to blue firing sheets.

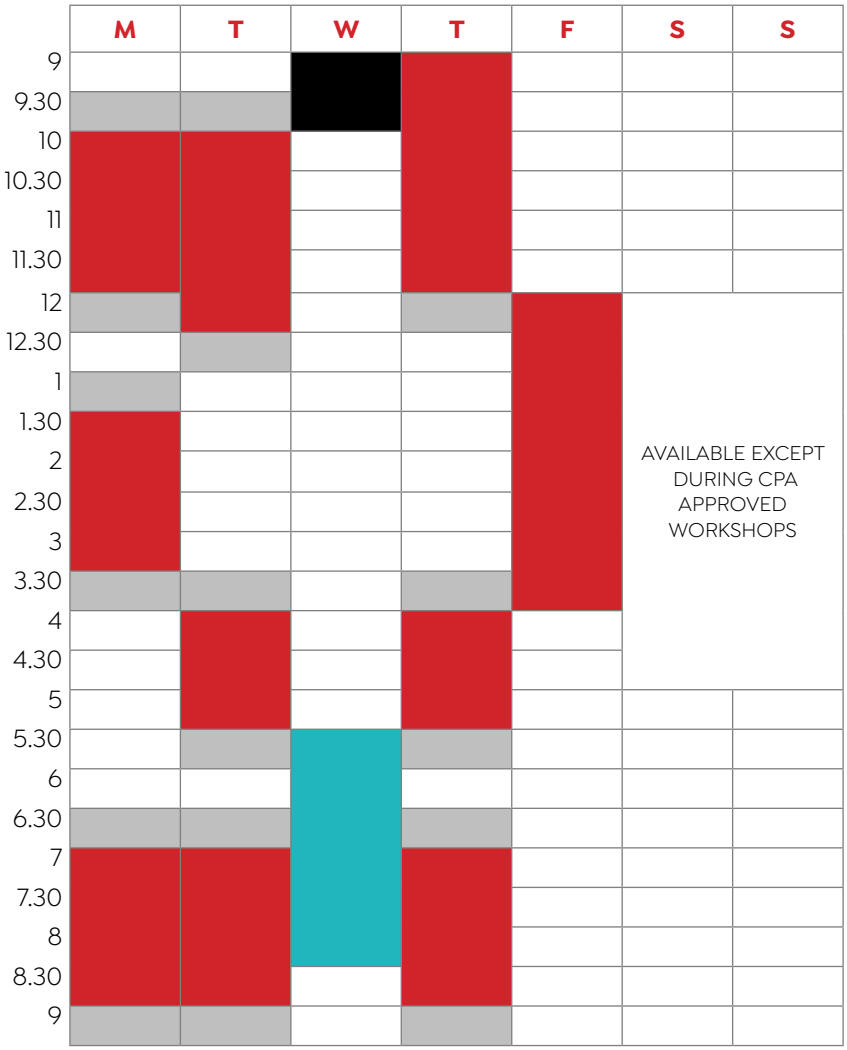
COLLECTING WORK

The CPA Committee wants to say a big thanks to everyone who has been diligently collecting their bisqued and glazed work from the clubroom shelves. This makes life easier for our tireless kiln group.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION

Our exhibition this year will be held at CoCa gallery courtesy of Canterbury Museum. Receiving date will be 2 October and selection will take place 3 October. There will be a prize for a first time exhibitor as well as several other prizes up for grabs, so you may want to start considering which of your fabulous pieces you would like to submit!

ROOM AVAILABILITY 2025



SET/CLEAN UP
CLASS
AVAILABLE
COMMITTEE MTG

Please avoid coming in before 10am on Wednesdays. Floor is usually wet and may be hazardous right after cleaning.

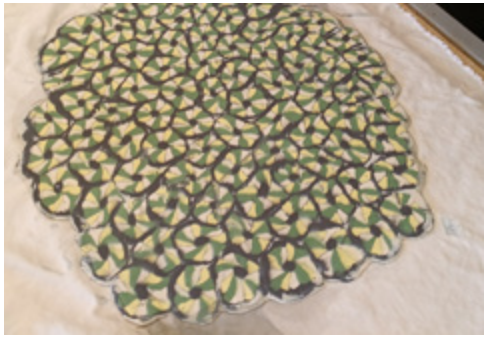
Committee meetings are held on second Wednesday of each month between 5.30-8.30pm

Classes are held during school terms (term breaks are the same as primary schools), the rooms are available anytime during term break.

Some tutors start/finish classes at different times so please check the class timetable here: canterburypotters.co.nz/classes/

4 TECHNIQUES 1 WEEKEND

SATURDAY 12 + SUNDAY 13 APRIL



SAT 8.45-12.45 | **A TASTE OF NERIKOMI** | **PENNY DE JONG** | a follow along workshop

SKILL LEVEL : SOME HAND BUILDING

An opportunity to learn some of the basics of making fine pottery with coloured clay, as per the Japanese technique of Nerikomi. We will learn how to create patterned rolls and techniques for preparing and colouring clay

TO BOOK & FIND OUT WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING VISIT

https://bit.ly/4in1-PDJ

SPOTS AVAILABLE | 12

SAT 1.30-4.30 | **DECORATING WITH COLOURED SLIPS** | **JANE MCCULLA** | workshop

SKILL LEVEL : BEGINNER-INTERMEDIATE

The workshop is invitation to explore and experiment with various applications of coloured slips onto clay. We will cover stencilling, stamping, printing and techniques such as slip trailing and scraffito. The aim is for each participant to have a small library of test tiles/pieces recording these techniques for future reference.

TO BOOK & FIND OUT WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING VISIT

https://bit.ly/4in1-JM

SPOTS AVAILABLE | 15

SUN 9-12 | **BUILD IT BIGGER** | **LORRAINE BONISCH** | demo & hands on

SKILL LEVEL : FOR EVERYONE

Learn how to build tall vessels quickly, using a fast, easy technique similar to coiling. We will also look at a design process that successfully brings your ideas and inspiration to life.

TO BOOK & FIND OUT WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING VISIT

https://bit.ly/4in1-LB

SPOTS AVAILABLE | 15

SUN 1-4 | **CLAYS AND GLAZES FROM OUR ENVIRONMENTS** | **ANDREW CARRAN** | demo & talk

SKILL LEVEL : FOR EVERYONE

The workshop will be quite interactive with lots of materials but also a discussion about the resources that can help you find interesting materials and the practical issues around what you can legally and safely collect and process.

TO BOOK & FIND OUT WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING VISIT

https://bit.ly/4in1-AC

SPOTS AVAILABLE | 15

$60 per session plus material costs - more info available when you scan each QR code (or visit the bit.ly link)